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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/707,240	11/30/2003	Jung-Tang Huang	UTEP0008USA	1239

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NORTH AMERICA INTERNATIONAL PATENT OFFICE (NAIPC)

P.O. BOX 506

MERRIFIELD, VA 22116

EXAMINER

PATEL, VINOD D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3742

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

5p

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/707,240	HUANG, JUNG-TANG	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Vinod D. Patel	3742	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED OFFICE ACTION

INTRODUCTION

1. This application/control number 10/707,240 has been examined. This is the first action on the merits of the claimed invention. The application has claims 1-6 pending.

Drawings

2. Figures 1-3 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Abrams (US2001/0009307).

Abrams discloses a micro-heating apparatus (10) for locally controlling a temperature in a mold, the micro-heating apparatus comprising: a substrate (surface of barrel 28), at least a micro-heating module (150) installed on the substrate, the micro-heating module comprising a

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micro-heater (152, 154, 156), an external power circuit as shown in the Figure 1 connected to a programmable controller/microprocessor (32) for controlling the operation of plasticator (12) and press (18), a heater controller (158) to sense and control the temperature, (column 1, lines 54-56), a power system (96) comprises an electric motor (98).

The micro-heating apparatus wherein the micro-heater and the temperature detector have a micro-single layer structure as shown in the drawings.

A micro-multi layer structure with a plurality of serial or parallel geometry shapes fabricated by a micro- electromechanical system process, painting or otherwise placing a coating on the part, hot stamping a decal on the part, partially assembling the part, or molding or embossing a symbol on the part (page 9, paragraph 0119).

The micro-heating apparatus is set in compression mold (column 5, lines 35-37).

The micro-heating apparatus wherein the micro-heater indirectly contacts the plastic material in the mold means that the mold further comprises a stamper (18) with a plurality of microstructures set on the substrate, so that the micro-heater is capable of heating the plastic material through the stamper.

The method steps of claims 5-6 are inherently performed by the structure of the Abrams.

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The art should be both separately considered and considered in conjunction with the previously cited art when responding to this action. Abrams (US6620353), Okamoto (US6517755), Wieder (US6312628), Hata (US5419858), Yokota (US5260008), Suganuma (US5149472), Satoh (US4767505), Koschmann (US4197070) relate to molding devices..

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vinod D. Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-4785. The examiner can normally be reached on 7.30 A.M. TO 4.00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robin Evans can be reached on 571-272-4777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VP

Vinod Patel 4/4/05
Vinod Patel
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3742

Robin O. Evans
ROBIN O. EVANS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
4/4/05